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DRAFT: DFM: sk (20 Oct 75)

Honorable Melvin Price, Chairman Committee on Armed Services House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your request for the views and recommendations of the Central Intelligence Agency on Mr. Bennett's proposal, H.R. 7781, to amend the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 403). H.R. 7781 encompasses the legislative recommendations of the President's Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States (the Rockefeller Commission), which issued its report in June 1975.

Several of the changes proposed in this bill would add the word "foreign" before the word "intelligence" wherever it refers to the activities authorized to be undertaken by CIA. I fully support this change. I have publicly stated my view that the Agency's charter lies solely in the foreign intelligence field, and have attempted to insure that all CIA activities are so circumscribed.

However, I believe it advisable to expressly recognize this limitation in the National Security Act.

Section (4) of H.R. 7781 proposes to add the word "collect" in section 102(d)(3) of the Act, so that this exposition of Agency duties would read:

"(3) to collect, correlate, and evaluate intelligence relating to the national security, and provide for the appropriate dissemination of such intelligence within the Government using where appropriate existing agencies and facilities (emphasis added)."

Section 102(d)(5) of the Act directs the Agency "to perform such other functions and duties related to intelligence affecting the national security as the National Security Council may from time to time direct." Pursuant to this provision of law, CIA has long been authorized to collect foreign intelligence.

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